



LARC



Volume 50, Number 04

April 2010

AARA Hamfest Results

Here are some of the results of the recently held AARA Hamfest held in Rayne, LA on the 12th and 13th of March.

Special guest appearance for the ARRL Louisiana State Convention was Norm Fusaro W3IZ, ARRL Club Coordinator.



Gary Stratton - K5GLS
ARRL Louisiana Section Manager

Norm Fusaro - W3IZ
ARRL Club Coordinator

The now famous "Crawfish Boil & Fais-Do-Do Live Cajun Band" was again another big hit with the crowd on Friday evening. Roland Ledet K5EUO from Port Arthur, TX was in charge of the band and really "cranked it up" again, Thanks go to Roland and all the band members!

The WX was picture perfect both days for the hamfest. RV attendance proved to be very good this year. Most of the tables at the fest had something occupying them on Friday and Saturday. The Rayne Lion's Club manned the concession stand this year and will probably be back next year.

These are the Grand Prize winners:

- 1st Prize IC718 - Don Willbanks, AE5DW, Picayune, Ms 39466
- 2nd Prize IC-208H - John Cunniff, W4JHC, Lafayette, LA
- 3rd Prize IC-V8000 - Ed Roy, WA5TNK, Lafayette, LA
- 4th Prize IC-V8Sport - Jim Booker, N5NVP, Scott, LA

The Fox Hunt winners were:

Abigail Wilson KF5BEW (shown on left in blue and her sister Kendra in pink) with their "Tape Measure" home brew yagi antenna. They are the daughters of Galen Wilson KF5BET.

They received 100 door prize tickets as their reward for finding the "fox" (carried by Rick N5RLM in a shopping bag), they really worked hard and the fun was to watch them in action.



President's Message

by Irma Booker KE5UPK
AARA President

Well, here we are, another month just about gone. As a child I used to wake up early in the morning and sometimes hear Mom and Dad talking in the kitchen while Mom was fixing Dad's breakfast and his lunch. I remember hearing Dad say to Mom one morning, "where does the time go? Seems like just yesterday the kids were just babies." Now, I know. I'm saying the same thing about my children. This world seems to be spinning faster and faster and the babies grow just as fast.

Is winter finally over? We seem to think so, over and over again. Well, it has to end at some point. Easter is usually the final cold snap, so we have that to look forward to. I know the birds are ready. They are singing up a storm, and the flowers are smiling and so anxious to bloom. People are trying to get their gardens planted, but fearing another frost.

Our hamfest is behind us now. I must say it was a great success. The crawfish were wonderful. I thought I would get Jim's crawfish this year because the past two years he gave up trying to peel them after about three of four. But guess what, this year he got the hang of it and ate the whole thing. I was glad for him that he knows now how good they were.

I really enjoyed myself. I met old friends and made new ones. Seems like each hamfest I make new friends and enjoy seeing the former ones.

(continued on page 4 column 3)

DATES TO REMEMBER**REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday April 1st @ 7:00 PM
 Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
 Scott, LA

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Twin City Hamfest
 April 24th, 2010
<http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/>

Local 2-Meter Nets**Sunday**

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
 147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2010-2011

President - Irma Bookter KE5UPK
ilafle@bellsouth.net

Vice Pres. - Archie Hill W5AG

Secretary - Paul Scallan K5VSH

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

John Cunniff - W4JHC

Calvin Begnaud - KD5JCT

Nick Romero - KE5MWX

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

QLS MANAGER

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Herman Campbell - KN5GRK

337-234-5364 - kn5grk@w5ddl.org

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
Acadiana Amateur Radio Association

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building 101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

Programming Notes:

Archie Hill W5AG, AARA Vice President

At some organizations the Vice President assists with the arrangement of the programs by helping to line up speakers. With President Irma's encouragement, I have started to feel out some of our members as to whether they would be willing to help by giving a short technical talk at our monthly meetings. The response has been enthusiastic and each person I approached was willing to take on a topic. Here are some of the possible future speakers and their topics:

Nick Romero KE5MWX, "Home Brew Legal Limit Amplifier Fabrication;" Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, "Antenna Modeling for Beginners;" Fred Marshall W5MLE, "Repeater Equipment Old and New;" Jim Bookter N5NVP, "Participating in the National Traffic System (Passing Radiograms);" Danny Daigle KD5JSM, "My Experiences as a Tower Climber;" and Nick Pugh K5QXJ, "Making Contacts with Satellites." All of these people were buttonholed at either our after-hamfest March meeting or the following Wednesday "Lunch Bunch." Some other possibilities (not yet approached) include a ham from the Shreveport area, "How to Shunt Feed a Tower to Make a 40/80 Meter Vertical Antenna;" Charlie Morrison KI5XP, "My Experiences with Contesting;" and Dr. Pat Sonnier W5WMU, "History of a Ten Acre Antenna Farm."

Fitting a speaker into our monthly meeting might help to recruit and retain some of the many hams that earn and update their radio licenses through our active Tech/General classes and our frequent Volunteer Examiner sessions. An idea than has been suggested is to have the meal earlier in the monthly program followed by an abbreviated business session and the technical talk. The idea of helping new hams graduating from the tech class with a subsidized membership could perhaps be extended to all new hams in a wider portion of the Acadiana Area. If we can provide entertaining and informative talks together with informal fellowship our new members will be more likely to stay-on and participate in our many activities.

Some other activities that were suggested by Nick Pugh include having monthly recognition of members who have made contacts with the most distance (available on qrz.com) or greatest distance per watt. We might somehow add this information to the sign-in sheet. Members also recall meetings where a theme was to bring in their favorite/most interesting QSL card and each member gave a brief description of their card.

In the near future Field Day (last full weekend in June) will be upon us. We have been fortunate to have Roland Guidry NA5Q reserve the Frog Festival Grounds Pavilion, this year at a club cost of \$100 plus a small fee for RV's. It would be nice to arrange a "shake-out" day on the Daigle farm, perhaps on a Saturday in May, to raise the tri-bander and 40 meter beams on our portable tower and test out the radios in AMOS. This year we have had work done on the generators to bring them into good condition.

Well the year has just begun for the officers of AARA. I am reminded of the TV show with the title "Curb Your Enthusiasm." I hope that that does not apply to our programming activities just yet.

April General Meeting

The April AARA General Meeting will take place on **Thursday April 1st (April Fool's Day & this is for real-no joke!)** at **7:00 PM** at the Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA.

VE testing will be at 6:00 PM for those wanting to test.

BRING SOME DOOR PRIZES!

March 2010 AARA MEETING MINUTES (edited)

The meeting was opened by president John W4JHC, for his last time.

The opening prayer was by the outgoing Vice-President Herman KN5GRK.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

There were 35 members and 5 visitors in attendance. The visitors were Kathy Scallan (XYL of Paul K5VSH), Sally Trautman (XYL of Al K5MZG), Pat Griffith (XYL of Danny K5ARH), Ronnie Guidry (XYL of Roland NA5Q), and Ms. Ellen Taylor.

VE testing for this meeting was dispensed as VE testing was held at the AARA Hamfest in Rayne, LA last weekend, see results on this page.

Minutes: The February Minutes were not read, due to being posted in the March 2010 LARC Newsletter.

Financial Report: No financial report was given.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nick K5QXJ stated that there was no news on the move for the 146.82 MHz repeater. The auto-patch is still not working.

John W4JHC mentioned that the General Class school at New Horizons on Tuesday nights is going very well. General Class Testing will be Tuesday, the 23rd of March. Other testing will be on Thursday, the 25th. He also mentioned that the 20 Chinese dual band hand-talkies will not be bought. This is due to higher costs, etc. than what was originally thought.

NEW BUSINESS:

Roland NA5Q (Hamfest Chairperson) gave a report on the Ham Fest. He stated that there were more campers than last year, but 106 fewer registrations. He also personally thanked many of the ones that helped put on this hamfest and may have left out someone but he apologized for the oversight.

John W4JHC donated his 2nd place prize, an ICOM 208H, to the club.

Mitch Romero KB5TWL won the drawing for the yearly AARA General Meeting grand prize. He won a Chinese dual band Quansheng Model TG-UV hand held. He was unable to attend the meeting so photo not available at this time.

Herman KN5GRK stated that, after this year, he will no longer be composing and distributing the club LARC Newsletter. Volunteers are asked to pick it up. He will continue his e-mail service.

New 2010 Club Officers and Board Members:

Ms. Irma Bookter KE5UPK, wife of Jim N5NVP, was installed as President.

She will be the first female president of the club. Archie W5AG was installed as Vice President, Paul K5VSH was re-installed as Secretary, and Joy N5YCS was re-installed as Treasurer.

John W4JHC, Nick KE5MWX, and Calvin KD5JCT will serve as Board Members. John has also tested to become a new VE.

Herman KN5GRK will be the new Club PIO replacing Dags KE5CGN as per appointment by the new club president.

DOOR PRIZES: No door prizes were presented.

Good food was enjoyed by everyone and thanks for all that brought covered dishes. Many inquiries were asked about the "Bacon Wrapped Jalapeno Peppers". Who made them and can we get the recipe?

Respectfully Submitted

Paul D. Scallan, Sr. K5VSH
Secretary, AARA

Hamfest VE Test Results

Fred Jones of Vidor, TX received the Technician call KF5FNO.

Glen Thibodeaux of Carencro, LA received the Technician call KF5FNP.

Wendy Ross of Centerville, MS received the Technical call KF5FNQ.

John Gray of Sulphur, LA received the Technician call KF5FNR.

Rebecca Part of Ventress, LA received the Technician call KF5FNS.

Lawrence Arena of Opelousas, LA received the Technician call KF5FNT.

Henry Ellis of Brusly, LA upgraded to General KF5EUH.

Christian Besser of Westlake, LA upgraded to Extra KF5ELU.

Jeremy Moore of Covington, LA upgraded to General KF4DSP.

Justin Coco of Moreauville, LA upgraded to General KE5YSV.

The VE's for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH, Greg Dolan K5LFT, Archie Hill W5AG, Mitch Romero KB5TWL, Terry Partigianoni W5TMP, Sharon Walker KA5DOW, & Ray Arceneaux N5LRZ.

73

Danny Griffith K5ARH.

Club Newsletter & E-Mail Update

Persons not renewing their club membership after April 1st will be removed from the "Members" e-mail list and moved to "General" e-mail list and those non-members receiving a hard copy of the LARC newsletter will be dropped except those receiving "Complementary" copies (ARRL Officers).

Herman KN5GRK
LARC Editor Club PIO



**Saturday
April 24, 2010**

Northeast Louisiana Regional Ham Radio-Fest 2010 ARRL Louisiana Section Convention



Come join us on Saturday, April 24th, 2010 for one of the premier Hamfests in the region. Meet friends, enjoy great food, see the latest equipment, attend informative forums, or find a great flea market deal! Take I-20 (Exit 120) then East on Frontage Road just past Sam's Club approx. 1 mile. Look for the Barak Shrine Temple on right.

Dealers & Vendors Include:

- Palmetto Antennas
- Solar Energy Supply
- SignMan of Baton Rouge
- Others TBA

Forums . . .

- 9:00 AM Testing All classes
- 10:00 AM Louisiana Contest

Club Forum and Meeting

- 11:00 AM ARRL Section Convention
- 1:00 PM Solar Demonstration and Q&A

Hamfest Grand Prizes . . .

- 1st prize: Yaesu FT 817 HF 70 cm All Mode Portable
- 2nd prize: Yaesu FT 7900 VHF UHF Dual Band Mobile
- 3rd prize: Wouxum Dual Band HT

Door prizes each hour.

Doors open at 8:00 AM on Saturday, set-up for vendors and flea market on Friday, April 23rd from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Saturday morning at 7:00AM

\$5 Entry Fee . . . Tickets available at the door and include a chance at the grand prizes. Additional prize tickets also available for purchase for \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5 or 25 tickets for \$20

Reserve Your Table Today!!! Tables are \$10 each; electricity is an additional \$10.

Send e-mail to: tables@tchams.org, or by mail at: Table sales, PO Box 1871, West Monroe, LA 71294

Upgrade or Get Your Ham Radio License . . . License exams for all classes 9:00AM on Saturday

Talk-in on 146.85 MHz . other popular repeaters include: West Monroe 147.135 MHz (127.3 Hz tone); Riverton (Wide Area Coverage) on 147.015; Rayville 145.490; and Ruston 147.120 (tone 98.4)

Get updated flyer at:
<http://www.tchams.org/flyer.pdf>

April 2010 Special Events & Contests

Apr. 1 thru 11	Lighthouse Spring Lites QSO Party
Apr. 3 & 4	EA RTTY Contest
Apr. 10	K5DAK - Pine Bluff ARC Railroadiana—Commemorating the 819 Steam Locomotive. Pine Bluff, AR.
Apr. 10	K5BS - 63 rd Anniversary of the Texas City Disaster. Texas City, TX.
Apr. 10 & 11	QCWA Spring QSO Party
Apr. 17 thru 25	W5HSV - 40 th Anniversary of Hot Springs Village, AR.
Apr. 24	W5B - Commemorating 100 years of Scouting. Jackson, MS.
Apr. 24	AD5EF - Commemorating 40 years of 7290 Traffic Net. Smithville, TX.
Apr. 24	SP DX RTTY Contest

You can find more listings of Contests and Special Event Stations in the April 2010 issue of QST on pages 84 and 92.



2010 BIRTHDAYS

4/06	ARNOLD	KE5JXC
4/06	KIRK	N1TVF
4/12	BERT	W5ZR
4/13	WILLIAM	N4ELM
4/08	GALEN	KF5BET
4/21	ABBIGAIL	KF5BEW
5/05	HAROLD	KE5UPL
5/06	JOHN	W4JHC
5/08	MELISSA	KF5CZA

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

President's Message (continued)

After the hamfest several hams accompanied Mickey Cox K5MC and Gary Stratton K5GLS to Westlake, LA. for a visit with Alan Levine WA5LQZ. While there



Mickey presented the much deserved *Delta Division Distinguished Service Award* to Alan. Alan looked great and was happy to receive the award. Congratulations to a dedicated and faithful amateur radio operator.

(continued on page 5 column 1)

March 2010 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	45	1	90	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	79	0	145	KF5CNU Grant
Acadiana ARES Net	4	22	0	44	N5LRZ Ray
Vermillion Parish ARES Net	4	37	1	77	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* 6M / 8G	2	23	KE5JKD Larry

What you see depends on what you're looking for. *Anonymous*

President's Message (continued)

John Cunniff W4JHC, outgoing president gave his final address as president, and welcomed the new president. I want to thank John for his dedication to and his participation in the club, he has done a fantastic job. I hope I can accomplish even half of what he has. Roland gave a fantastic report on the hamfest at our W5DDL Banquet on March 20th, and gave credit to all that helped make the hamfest the success that it was. At the banquet we all had a great time with more than enough to eat. I'm looking forward to working with all of you to have continued success.

As I said before I am deeply honored to be your president and aim to serve the club to the best of my ability. I've been called lots of things, but this is the first time I've been addressed as Madam President, ie, Greg Dolan. Our next meeting of April 8th will be my first as Club President. I look forward to an interesting year filled with new challenges. Club Vice President Archie Hill W5AG has some great ideas to spark interest in members and new-comers. There will be more about this at the next meeting.

Our next largest event is Field Day which is the last full weekend in June. We need to be focused on that date right now.

73 de Irma KE5UPK - President

Newsletter Editor Wanted

At the March 20th AARA General Meeting, I mentioned that I would retire as the Editor of the LARC. The December 2010 issue will be my last. I just don't have the time to put my full effort into doing this project with all the other ham radio duties I am involved with at the present time. If any of our club members would like to pick up doing the newsletter, I would be glad to give them a little tutorial ahead of time (don't wait until December 15th hi hi). I use MS Publisher and I find it to be a very easy program to work with.

AARA New Club PIO

As the new Public Information Officer (PIO) for the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc., I will try my best to keep the amateur radio community in the state updated the best of my ability. I will need your help in order to do this. I consider each of you as part of my staff. If you see anything noteworthy of our hobby, I ask you to pass it along to me, especially items in the Acadiana area.

Herman KN5GRK
Club Public Information Officer

Ham Radio Class Reports

Many of you may not be aware of the ham radio classes that have been going on in the Lafayette area for the last couple of months, they are now concluded and here are the results.

The General License classes were held at the New Horizons on Ambassador Caffery on Tuesday nights. The class ended on March 23rd. There were six persons that tested, three came out with General upgrades. They are: Mark Saltzman KE5ENE, Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJD, and Heath Finfrock N5YFT.

VE's for the General License tests were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH, Greg Dolan K5LFT and Archie Hill W5AG.

The Children's Museum of Acadiana were holding Technician classes on Thursday nights and the classes ended on March 25th. 32 tested and 19 passed. 18 were for Technician Licenses and 2 were for General Licenses. Our club president Irma Bookter KE5UPK upgraded to General.

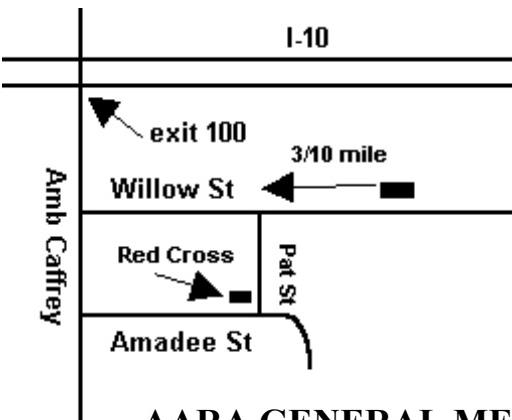
VE's for this session were:
Danny Griffith K5ARH, Greg Dolan K5LFT, Glenn Breaux KD5NVC, Ward Tilly NG5T and Archie Hill W5AG.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a Friend to be a HAM !

AARA GENERAL MEETING

April 1st, 2010 - 7:00 PM

VE Testing @ 6:00 PM

Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA

Lunch Bunch

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Paul's Cheese & Shrimp Pasta

(Submitted by: Paul Scallan, Jr. K5VSH)

2 cups of pasta (bow-tie, penne, or elbow, etc.).

2 tablespoons of sliced or diced Pimento.

2 tablespoons diced green bell pepper.

2 tablespoons diced onion.

1 pound of Velveeta cheese.

1 pound of small, raw, peeled and deveined shrimp (frozen is O.K.).

red pepper flakes to taste. (optional)

Cook pasta per package directions, drain and return pasta to pot. Sauté pimento, bell pepper, and onion in butter. Add shrimp to sauté pan and sauté just until the shrimp starts to turn pink. Add everything in the sauté pan to the pasta. Melt cheese in a microwave safe container and add to the dish. (you can cube the cheese and add directly to pot). Combine and stir everything together and cook very slowly until the shrimp are done. Don't overcook. This will only take a short time.

Send your favorite recipes to:
Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@lusfiber.net



FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

ulscomm@fcc.gov.

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245